

Inequalities in Caries Experience Among Mongolian Children

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論文内容要旨

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There are widespread inequalities in oral health outcomes within and between countries. Although inequalities in dental caries have been well reported, globally, there is only one Mongolian study that have examined the association between socioeconomic status (SES) and caries experience which was published ten years ago in international journal. Therefore, this study aimed to determine the dental health status of Mongolian children, who are living in urban and suburban areas of Ulaanbaatar city and to examine its association with their household income and parental educational attainment. Oral examination was done by dentists and caries were measured as deft/DMFT indices. Questionnaire including demographic characteristics and socioeconomic status was completed by their parents or caregiver. As the measure of SES, parental educational attainment and household income were used. Relative index of inequality (RII) and slope index of inequality (SII) was employed to examine the association between SES on deft and DMFT after adjusting for age, sex, residence area, caretaker's age, daily brushing frequency and dental visits. Caries prevalence (those with deft/DMFT > 0) was 89.3% among total participants. The mean deft/DMFT for age groups 1-6, 7-12 and 13-18 year

olds were 5.83 (SD = 4.37, deft), 5.77 (SD = 3.31, deft/DMFT), and 3.59 (SD = 2.69, DMFT), respectively. Rather than residence area and parental educational attainment, significant caries experience inequality in relation to income was observed (RII 0.65 95% CI 0.52 to 0.82, SII -2.30, 95% CI -4.16 to -0.45). A prevention strategy for lower socioeconomic groups among Mongolian children is mandatory. In addition, building an integrated oral health surveillance to monitor epidemiological trends for further evaluation of its progress is necessary.